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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A transmission device performing a signal regeneration control, comprising:

a clock timing extraction circuit dynamically setting a frequency-dividing ratio based on a transmission rate of an input signal to perform a phase synchronization control so that the input signal and an oscillation output have a constant phase difference and extracting a clock timing based on the transmission rate; and

a regeneration control circuit sequentially sweeping a voltage threshold level and a phase of an extracted clock with respect to the input signal to determine whether signal logic levels measured at adjacent monitor points match with each other and to automatically measure a decision point within a valid zone of an eye pattern at which there is the least possibility that error occurs and performing the regeneration control by using the decision point as an optimal point,

wherein the regeneration control circuit performs said sweeping of the voltage threshold level and the phase of the extracted clock at intervals derived from a target error rate and a cycle period of the input signal.

2. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the clock timing extraction circuit comprises:

phase comparing means for comparing phases of the input signal and a frequency-divided clock to detect a phase difference therebetween;

averaging means for averaging the phase difference to generate a control voltage;

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voltage-controlled oscillation means for oscillating a synchronizing clock based on the control voltage;

frequency-dividing means for dividing the frequency of the synchronizing clock to generate the frequency-divided clock; and

phase-locked loop control means for determining whether the control voltage falls within a set range to determine whether a phase-locked loop is in a locked state and dynamically setting the frequency-dividing ratio based on a result of determination.

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3. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the phase comparing means makes an exclusive-OR operation on a level of a rising edge of the frequency-divided clock and that of a falling edge thereof so that the phase difference is detected as a duty ratio.

4. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the phase-locked loop control means sets a frequency-dividing ratio available before power off in the frequency-dividing means at the time of power off and sets a control voltage available before breaking of the input signal in the averaging means when the input signal breaks.

5. (previously presented) The transmission device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the regeneration control circuit comprises:

voltage threshold level setting means for making a decision on the input signal by using the voltage threshold level and generating measured data from the input signal;

clock phase setting means for setting a phase of the clock;

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level decision control means for determining whether signal logic levels of the measured data at the adjacent monitor points match with each other, and providing the result of said determination as decision information;

decision information hold means for holding the decision information; and

optimal point setting means for identifying a decision point within the valid zone of the eye pattern at which there is the least possibility that error occurs from the decision information obtained by sequentially sweeping the voltage threshold level and the extracted phase of clock and performing the regeneration control in which the decision point thus identified is used as the optimal point.

6. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the level decision control means pulls in phase a first output of the measured data triggered by a current clock and a second output of the measured data triggered by a delayed clock obtained by delaying the current clock by a fixed time, makes an exclusive-OR operation on the first and second outputs to make a level decision on the monitor point and generates the decision information.

7. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the optimal point setting means applies an offset adjustment control to the clock timing extraction circuit when a maximum transmission rate of the input signal is equal to the rate of the synchronizing clock to thereby generate a through clock, the clock phase setting means selects the through clock to sweep the clock phase.

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8. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the optimal point setting means applies a count value control and a digital phase step control to the clock phase setting means when the transmission rate of the input signal is lower than that of the synchronizing clock to thereby generate a clock signal having a different frequency-dividing ratio, and applies an offset adjustment control to the clock timing extraction circuit to thereby generate a frequency-divided signal based on the clock signal, the clock phase setting means selects the frequency-divided clock to sweep the clock phase.

9. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the optimal point setting means sets a reset cycle based on an error rate corresponding to the transmission rate of the input signal, and resets the decision information held in the decision information holding means on the basis of the reset cycle.

10. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the optimal point setting means controls to shift a next monitor point without waiting for the reset cycle when recognizing that the decision information is indicative of error.

11. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the optimal point setting means comprises a memory for memorizing the decision information about the monitor points, and determines, as the optimal point, a monitor point located in a memory area in which there is the least error with respect to the voltage threshold level and the clock phase.

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12. (original) The transmission device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the optimal point setting means memorizes the voltage threshold level and the clock phase at the monitor point determined as the optimal point, and performs the regeneration control using the memorized voltage threshold level and the clock phase at the time of restart.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A regeneration control circuit performing a regeneration control of an input signal, comprising:

voltage threshold level setting means for making a decision on the input signal by using a voltage threshold level and generating measured data from the input signal;

clock phase setting means for setting a phase of a clock for decision making;

level decision control means for determining whether signal logic levels of the measured data at adjacent monitor points match with each other, and providing the result of said determination as decision information;

decision information hold means for holding the decision information; and

optimal point setting means for identifying a decision point within a valid zone of an eye pattern at which there is the least possibility that error occurs from the decision information obtained by sequentially sweeping the voltage threshold level and the phase of the clock with respect to the input signal and performing the regeneration control in which the decision point thus identified is used as an optimal point,

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wherein the voltage threshold level setting means changes the voltage threshold level or the clock phase setting means changes the phase of the clock at intervals derived from a target error rate and a cycle period of the input signal.

15. (currently amended) An optical receiver receiving a light signal and performing a regeneration control, comprising:

an opto-electric conversion unit converting the light signal into an electric signal;

a filtering unit performing a waveform equalizing control of the electric signal;

a clock timing extraction unit dynamically setting a frequency-dividing ratio based on a transmission rate of the input signal to perform a phase synchronization control so that there is a fixed phase difference between the input signal and an oscillation output and extracting a clock timing based on the transmission rate; and

a regeneration control unit sequentially sweeping a voltage threshold level and phase of the extracted clock with respect to the input signal to determine whether signal logic levels measured at adjacent monitor points match with each other and, based thereon, finding an optimal point within a valid zone of an eye pattern at which there is the least possibility that error occurs,

wherein the regeneration control circuit performs said sweeping of the voltage threshold level and the phase of the extracted clock at intervals derived from a target error rate and a cycle period of the input signal.

16. (previously presented) A transmission device according to claim 1, wherein an interval X of said sweeping in units of seconds is determined from a relationship of

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$$1/10^n = C/X$$

where the target error rate is 10^{-n} , and C is a cycle period of the input signal in units of seconds.

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